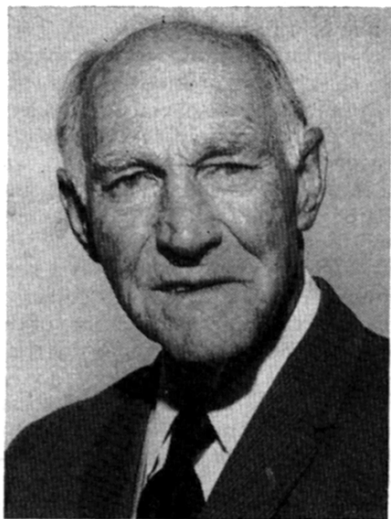




Philip Haviland Haviland, OBE, BSc,

who was born in Rhodesia in 1897, died on 10 October, 1971.

He was educated at King Edward VII Senior School, Johannesburg, and went straight from the classroom to the Army, serving with the South African Brigade in France from 1915–19. The war over, he studied engineering at Witwatersrand University, where he received a BSc(Eng) degree in 1922.

Haviland, who represented North and South Rhodesia on the Council from 1952–55, was an irrigation engineer of distinction, and outstanding in this field in his own country. He was a founder member of the Rhodesian Society of Civil Engineers

(1944) and first President of the Rhodesian Institution of Engineers (1951–52). Starting his career in 1922 as assistant engineer on South African Railways, he joined a year later the Southern Rhodesian Department of Irrigation, to which he was to devote most of his career.

He was responsible for the construction of the first government irrigation scheme in the country (at Umgusa) and in 1927 surveyed the Kariba Gorge for possible power development. In 1929 he set up the Bulawayo Office of the Department of Irrigation, which he himself administered until the outbreak of World War II.

In 1940, with the rank of Captain, he took the first contingent of Rhodesian Sappers to join the Corps of Royal Engineers in the Middle East. Later, as Major, he commanded a Field Company of the Royal Engineers in the Western Desert. After further service in Kenya he was recalled in 1943 to take up the post of Director of Irrigation, Southern Rhodesia, and in this capacity was one of the chief advocates of 'contour ridging' for protection of the land—a technique he promoted long before the Department of Conservation and Extension came into being. Several major dams were started during his term of office (during which his staff increased from 8 to 360). Later he was closely associated with the Natural Resources Board* and pollution problems.

For his achievements as an irrigation engineer he was awarded the OBE in 1952.

In 'retirement' his services to engineering were no less wholehearted. Apart from his 11 years with the Natural Resources Board he was a member of the Inter-Territorial Hydro-Electric Power Board, the Federal Hydro-Electric Board and Salisbury Rural Town Planning Authority. As a member of

* For 11 years he served as a full member of the Board (1956–67), of which for 7 years he was Vice-Chairman.

the Swaziland Government Commission he reported on the water resources of Swaziland, work which included the drafting of a new water Act.

A man of infinite variety and stamina, he inevitably overflowed into spheres not necessarily connected with irrigation engineering. While in Bulawayo before the war he took an active part in running the Prisoners' Aid Society, was from 1932-55 a keen Rotarian, and on his return from active service in 1946 became Provincial Scout Commissioner for Mashonaland and was connected with the early development of Ruwa Park.† At about this time he also served on the committee of a welfare organization for Coloureds now called the Arcadia Community Centre, and for many years had a seat on the Council of Salisbury Polytechnic. In his younger days Haviland was a keen member of Salisbury Rifle Club, (representing Matabeleland on a number of occasions), played Rugby for Salisbury Sports Club and was a member of the Matopos Sailing Club. In 1962 he was ordained an Elder of the Presbyterian Church.

For his indefatigable work and enthusiasm in both engineering and social fields he was to have received the Wingquist Award from the Rhodesian Institution of Engineers at their AGM held four days after his death, when he would also have been nominated an Honorary Fellow.

In 1952 he presented a paper to the CEPC Conference, 'The development of the water resources of Southern Rhodesia', CEPC 1952, 60. Discussion: 78.

Elected a corporate member of the Institution in 1929, he was transferred to the senior grade in 1939.

He is survived by his widow, two daughters and a son.

† He was connected with the establishment of the Southern Rhodesian Engineers and subsequently appointed Honorary Colonel of the Rhodesian Corps of Engineers.